

# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE



Program coordinator Kate Sweeney (center) and volunteer Jack Sanders (right) join Project Insight participants in a refreshment break while helping out with a city recycling effort. (See story on Page 13)

## James Lick Classes Under Proposition 9 Guillotine

By Rosamund Parr

James Lick Middle School stands to lose all but one or two of its elective classes if Proposition 9 passes in June.

According to Principal James Villafuerte, such cuts would result in a school day reduced to five one-hour periods.

It seems certain that all public schools in Noe Valley, and throughout the city, will suffer if Prop. 9 succeeds at the polls. The Howard Jarvis-backed initiative would cut state income taxes an average of 54 percent. As a result, state revenues, now totaling \$24 billion, are expected to be reduced by \$3.5-\$5 billion.

The state administration has asked all departments to cut their budgets by 30 percent. California Schools Superintendent Wilson Riles thinks that's impossible, saying, "We can't take any more cuts in California's schools without dismantling programs."

Riles also said that if the state bailout of local governments were ended, the public school system would be put out of business.

The San Francisco Unified School District has been asked by Riles not to consider Prop. 9 in its projected budget. Business Manager Anton Jungherr said that planning had become "a big guessing game." The same problems exist as did with Proposition 13. Because he

doesn't know how much funding to expect from the state, Jungherr said, he is unable to write a budget with Prop. 9 in mind.

He does know, however, that any cuts would be translated first into personnel reductions. The 40 to 45 percent loss of revenues now being anticipated would cause the layoffs of 85 percent of all school district employees. Counselors, psychologists and special teachers would be the first to go. Meanwhile, "the hope of getting federal monies is a dream."

At James Lick School, Villafuerte's meetings with the Board of Education have left him making gloomy forecasts. He thinks the middle schools and high schools will suffer the most, with his own school losing such valuable elective courses as drama, forensic sciences, woodwork and typing. Only music and industrial arts will be saved.

Villafuerte supports electives as a valuable introduction to the trades for students, especially the many who don't go on to college. "The elective program is at the heart of secondary schooling." And the proposed one-hour period length, he said, would be a bore for the students and drive teachers up the wall.

James Lick has a mature, stable staff. Only two of the 32 teachers there have received the termination letters sent to 640 of the city's teachers in

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## Owners Push Prop. 10

### Who Controls Rent Control?

By Melinda Breitmeyer

Another in a series of battles over rent control is currently being waged around Proposition 10 on the June ballot. It is a measure that literally hits home with a majority of San Franciscans, since it proposes significant changes in rent control in California. It would prohibit statewide rent control, revoke all existing rent ordinances, and establish limitations on any future rent control legislation.

It is difficult to imagine the two sides on the issue being more polarized. The backers of the proposition, with a large financial base provided by landlord organizations, claim it is a balanced measure that would set up standards for local rent control that represent a fair compromise between landlords' and tenants' interests.

The opposition, a coalition of tenants' rights activists working on a shoe-string budget, considers it a thinly-disguised plot by the landlords to severely limit the effectiveness of future rent control laws.

Twenty-one rent control ordinances are currently in effect up and down the state—responses to high-flying rents escalated by the housing market's heated-up conditions of high demand and low supply. Prop. 10 calls for all 21 laws to expire automatically.

#### Rents Tied to Inflation

Prop. 10 next establishes standards for any new rent control laws. The central feature of the standards is that rent increases would be allowed to keep

pace with inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), a number which may reach a painful 18 percent this year. Existing rent control laws are geared to much lower increases. San Francisco currently limits rent raises to 7 percent a year.

Allison Brennan, head of the No on 10 campaign in San Francisco, says that landlords are unreasonable to ask that rents keep up with inflation when their costs don't increase at that rate. "In most cases, at least half of a landlord's costs are tied up in mortgages, which are generally a fixed annual cost, unaffected by inflation," she said.

"Another large portion of costs—property taxes—under Prop. 13 increase only 2 percent a year. A landlord's actual costs may go up on the average 4 percent a year, only a fraction of the current CPI," she added.

#### 'Superprofits'

Barbara Dixon, deputy press director for Yes on 10, defends the landlords' position: "Costs vary from case to case. Mortgage costs sometimes fluctuate, and landlords have to deal with the costs of energy and labor, which increase faster than the CPI. Inflation is a fact of life that landlords must face along with everyone else."

Literature for Yes on 10 describes this feature of the initiative as a "compromise standard" designed to insure owners a fair rate of return and encourage investment. The opposition thinks, however, that landlords can make

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A highlight of May Day celebrations at Kezar Stadium in the 1940s and 1950s was Betty May's promenade of the May Day Queen and her cortege, guaranteed to bring a chorus of "aw's" from the crowd.

## Betty May: First Lady of Tap

By Lisa Bregman

If you grew up in San Francisco, you probably know someone who studied dance with Betty May. Or if you think hard enough, you might remember those tap dancing classes your mother took you to as a child—at the Betty May Studio.

The studio has been on the tree-lined block of Guerrero Street between 22nd and 23rd Streets for over 30 years. And Betty May, recognized throughout the Bay Area as the quintessential teacher of tap, is still its prime mover.

A child performer during the heyday of Vaudeville, May is well versed in all the performing arts. Her repertoire includes singing and playing the piano as well as ballet and acrobatics, but she most enjoys teaching tap. To her, tap dancing is not only fun, but "it develops rhythm and coordination essential to developing skill in dance or music."

And many people, from tiny tots to seniors, have studied tap under May's supervision. "I've met so many interesting people," she says modestly. TV

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# Editorial

## Nowhere Near a Perfect "10"

The landlord organizations, those wonderful folks who brought us Prop. 13, are back again with a heavily financed, slick media campaign designed to lure voters down another rosy garden path. But it's "Not a Through Street," and the path ends in a dismal cul-de-sac where low- and middle-income renters are again forced to feed those already flush landlords with increased rents tied to the runaway Consumer Price Index.

The story is definitely a melodrama, replete with moustache-twirling, black-hatted landlord as villain, and naive, curly-haired tenant as victim. Prop. 10 is weighted entirely in favor of the interests of profit-grubbing landlords. When they say their measure offers "reasonable compromise standards" for rent increases, the melodrama becomes Theatre of the Absurd.

Don't be fooled by the lie that their intention is to supply housing and shelter to the needy. They had their chance to build new housing before rent control, and rent control isn't what's stopping them now. It's simply an excuse to hide their real motive: greed. You'd have to look in a cow pasture for a purer grade of the kind of material that is being spouted about Prop. 10.

Right after voting against Prop. 9, keep your pencil poised in the NO column. Move it down a line and vote NO on 10.

## Businesses, Now It's Your Turn

Propositions L through S are seemingly mundane proposals which are easy to overlook. But unless you enjoy shelling out four hits for a bus ride and wish to pay even more in the future, you should make a special point to vote yes on L through S.

At the same time the Muni fare increases were passed, the mayor proposed the business taxes in these propositions, to make business provide the balance of needed revenues. This will be their fair share of the cost of maintaining essential city services ravaged by Prop. 13 (some feel their share should be far greater).

It's time for businesses, which reap the benefits of police, fire and other city services, to fork over part of the price tag. Thanks to the shark's teeth provisions of Prop. 13, these new taxes must be passed by a two-thirds majority of the voters. Every vote is vital! YES on L through S.

## Jaws II Threatens To Sink the Ship

Proposition 9, the notorious Jarvis II, is another round of foul rhetoric designed to appeal to the lowest common denominator in human nature: greed. Like its predecessor, Jarvis II is masquerading as a righteous crusade against corruption and waste. The repeat performance is even more ill-conceived and far more insidious because of its timing. It is followed so closely on the heels of 13, before the full effects of that catastrophe have hit, that voters still believe Jarvis' jawboning was right, that cutting taxes will not mean cutting services. But it's been the state surplus, funded by state income taxes, which has kept local services barely afloat. Take away half of that and you deal a death blow to essentials, not excesses. Vote NO (not again) on 9.

**THE NOE VALLEY VOICE**  
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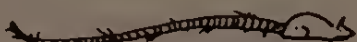
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### STAFF

Carla Anders  
Lisa Bregman  
Melinda Breitmeyer  
Victoria Colgan  
Nina Goldfeather  
Laurel Hellerstein  
Irene Kane  
Charles Kennard  
Ros Parr  
Rita M. Rouse  
Sarah Smith  
Steve Steinberg  
Jack Tipple  
Bill Yard

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## More Jazz on Street Fair

Though the price tag for producing the Noe Valley Street Fair has gone up this year, the sponsors will continue their tradition of donating \$1,000 in fair proceeds to a deserving neighborhood project or organization.

Non-profit groups may apply for the grant by sending a one-page letter, describing their activities and plans for the money, to the Street Fair Committee, care of Paul Garvey, Books Plus, 3910 24th St., 94114.

In a departure from previous fairs, Friends of Noe Valley and the Noe Valley Merchants Association, co-sponsors of the June 22 event, have hired the public relations firm of Terry Pimsleur & Co. to produce this year's fair. For a fee of \$5,000, Pimsleur & Co. has agreed to handle the publicity, permits, entertainment and booth space applications.

The Street Fair Committee, composed of members of Friends and the Merchants Association, will continue to provide security and clean-up, however.

This year's fair will have a theme: "Dixieland and All That Jazz," and entertainment will be suited to the occasion. Electronic music has been banned in the hopes that the event will be "quieter and cleaner" than past fairs, Garvey said.

The committee is looking for neighborhood volunteers who can spare two or more hours the day of the fair to help in the following areas:

- **Security:** Monitors are needed to patrol one-block sections of 24th Street from Diamond to Church Streets. Those interested should contact Lou Hopfer at his Pyramid Realty office, 821-3390, or home, 824-0115.

- **Clean-up:** Crews of volunteers will keep down the clutter by removing debris periodically throughout the day. Carl Smith at the Noe Valley Ministry, 282-2317, has information on this detail.

- **Booths:** The committee will operate three "bars" on the street, selling wine and beer. If you would like to lend your bartending services, call Barbara Hopkins at 285-2648.

The deadline for booth applications—ranging in cost from \$20 to \$75 (for groups selling food)—was May 1, but information on the availability of space may still be obtained by calling Pimsleur & Co. at 567-3055.



## Letters 15¢

### EDITOR:

I want to thank you and the rest of *The Noe Valley Voice* staff for your informative newspaper distributed in Noe Valley. I missed February's issue.

I am told that this issue had old pictures of 24th Street and other surrounding Noe Valley scenes.

I have resided in Noe Valley for 25 years and these nostalgic issues have a special meaning for people who have spent a lot of time and living in Noe Valley.

Bob Anderson  
3770 24th St.

### EDITOR:

Just a note to say thank you for the splendid article on St. Paul's in the April issue. It was well done. Please express our gratitude to Judith Lynch.

We at St. Paul's are proud of our one hundred years of service to the area. We do hope that you will be able to participate in the various events scheduled during the "Year of Jubilee" April 27, 1980, to April 26, 1981.

Katherine M. O'Shea  
Chairperson, Centennial Committee  
St. Paul's Church  
221 Valley St.

## James Lick...

*Continued from Page 1*

anticipation of Prop. 9 passing. Villa-fuerte is confident that it, and all the city's middle schools, will survive but not without great upheaval for the teaching staffs, creating serious instability in the schools.

At Edison Children's Center, Site Manager Genevieve Finn can only guess what cuts would result if Prop. 9 passed. Supplies and special programs seem obvious targets. Finn is worried about hardships for the children if the school loses teachers and substitutes are brought in.

None of the teachers at Alvarado Elementary School have received layoff letters, but Principal Carmel Diamond feels that any reductions in her staff would mean more discipline and less teaching. "The quality of education would not be the same."

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## Community Crosstalk

### A Grassroots Campaign To Tax the Corporations

We have all seen the decline in our neighborhoods over the last few years: the lack of street repair, neglected parks and recreational areas, the steady drop in the quality of education and health care. But we do not have to sit by and watch the further devastation of our city.

There is a clear solution to the budget crisis in San Francisco, a real hope for our city: Proposition V (as in Victory), the Initiative to Tax the Corporations. It is on the June 3 ballot.

Last year, a similar initiative won over 82,000 votes, 48.2 percent of the total vote. This year, 25,000 people signed our petitions in six days. With this support growing daily, we know we can win in June.

This is what Prop. V would do for the people of San Francisco:

- Prop. V restores the 60 percent share of city taxes that corporations used to pay, up until 1966. Since then, the corporate share has dropped to 30 percent. This means that we are paying the rest.

- Prop. V guarantees that these additional funds will go to city services. It guarantees that only the largest 5 percent of the corporations in the city will pay the increased tax. Businesses with less than \$2.5 million in gross receipts and \$250,000 in payroll will not pay one penny more. Dozens of small businesses have joined in the campaign to make the biggest corporations pay a fair share.

- Prop. V will also stop corporations from leaving town. The initiative imposes a large, extra tax on any large corporation that substantially reduces its payroll. It will be unprofitable for a company to move to another city.

- Prop. V will put a lid on higher prices. If a big corporation raises its prices, it will have more gross receipts and have to pay more taxes—so Prop. V is a real incentive *not* to raise prices.

Proposition V expresses the desire of thousands of San Franciscans to save our vital services, to combat inflation and to make our city a truly human place to live. Every vote will count, so be sure to vote YES on Prop. V on June 3. This will be a victory for all of San Francisco.

Grass Roots Alliance  
3229 Mission St.

### Fair Pay for Supervisors

On June 3 voters will settle the controversial issue of whether the San Francisco Board of Supervisors should receive a salary increase from \$9,600 to \$16,853. Proposition J, a proposed charter amendment, provides that "Supervisors' salaries shall be 25 percent of the mayor's, exclusive of benefits, to be adjusted automatically whenever the mayor's salary is increased."

San Francisco supervisors have received an annual salary of \$9,600 since the passage of a 1965 charter amendment (and if their salary had kept pace with the 144 percent inflation rate, they would now earn \$23,424). Neither the 1965 nor the 1980 charter amendment specifies whether the job of supervisor is full-time. And because the salary has been so low, it has been assumed that the job is part-time. Although they surely were aware of the "part-time" salary prior to election, most supervisors haven't fully realized the time demand until they were on the job. Consequently, the majority of supervisors admit that the district, city and regional responsibilities of the job require their full time, and therefore support the need for higher wages.

Based on her experience and observations as supervisor, Mayor Dianne Feinstein has become a fervent supporter of the need for a salary increase. She recognizes that the job should not be limited to those who can "afford" to serve the city and that the demands of the job require the kind of full attention that isn't possible when a supervisor is also burdened with earning a living for his/her family.

Although the controller estimates the passage of Prop. J would increase the cost of government by \$80,000\*, supporters consider it long overdue and essential to attract the best qualified persons to serve as policy-makers for the city.

I support the salary increase because it is essential that supervisors be as representative of the city as possible and not just limited to the wealthy or those privately employed persons who have free time and can afford to serve. We must correct the disparity and embarrassment the city suffers because our supervisors are paid less than those of the six other Bay Area counties, where salaries range from \$13,000 in Solano to \$32,000 in San Mateo.

The issue of changing the size of the board should be considered separately from the issue of salary. First we must give our supervisors a living wage. Vote yes on Prop. J.

Barbara Hopkins  
President, Friends of Noe Valley

\*Data courtesy of the S. F.  
League of Women Voters

COMMUNITY CROSSTALK is intended as an open forum for Voice readers. We welcome your opinions, debate and discussion of neighborhood issues and concerns. Submissions should be no longer than 500 words and should be mailed to *The Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, 94114, by the 15th of the month preceding month of issue.

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## Take a Walk on the Mild Side

By E. J. McBride

The Traveller gets off the bus on the corner of Castro and 24th Streets, hoists his duffle onto his shoulder and starts to walk. After two years of living in L.A., he is finally exploring the City. But so far his experiences have not lived up to expectations.

The Traveller is an ex-New Yorker who spent most of his life in the seedier parts of The Big City, and on first impression San Francisco looks like more of the same. It is, after all, a city, complete with towering buildings, sleazy strip joints and ethnic ghettos.

L.A. however is different. Clean, spread out, filled with palm trees, warm the year round. Lonely perhaps, but not frightening. One can walk for miles without risk of confrontation. Southern Californians work on their bodies and, let's admit it, they are beautiful. The teasing draw of the string bikini. The sexiest of running shorts. A lack of clothing that suggests fun, leisure. In the Big City where one grows up too fast, there is little time for play, so the City of Play is, at first, irresistible.

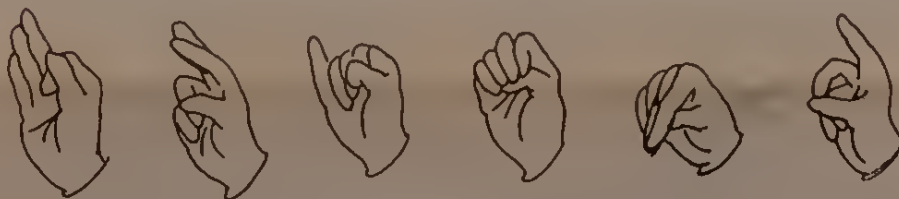
But soon the draw wears off. In L.A. you make it or you don't. Settle into store-bought comfort or become restless. And ultimately you need. Not the pure cocaine or restless sex; not the fame and recognition or the house on the hill. Something warmer, something human. Something you can touch, but haven't been able to in a long time.

Noe Valley radiates tenderness. Even to the stranger, it is clear that this is a neighborhood in the old-time sense of the word. Ethnic, but multi-ethnic. With not just Italian restaurants, not just Chinese, but French and Mexican and even greasy spoon American. With laundromats, bookstores and boutiques that have a sense of having grown there naturally, not as the result of some master-planning shopping center baron. It is a self-contained community where the people not only say hello to each other, but actually look out for each other. You can see it in their eyes. "Like me to walk you home?" someone will ask toward closing time at Finnegan's, and in this instance the concern is purely platonic.

And it is visible in other ways. Simple ways. Smiles on the deck of the Acme Cafe. Eye contact on the street. People concerned with listening to each other, not just talking. Things missing from the big cities of the East where so many of Noe Valley's residents seem to have originated. Things missing but remembered by the Traveller as he walks the sunny length of 24th Street.

The street itself is nurturing. The local bars. The cafes where one can sit the entire day for the price of a cup of coffee. And as you sit, warm things leap out from memory like childhood dreams. Brooklyn was like this once: before the change, before the violence, before it all fell apart. And after four days in Noe Valley, the Traveller yearns for that simpler past. For home.

And as he begins to settle in, he thinks he may have found it.



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## Rent Control . . . . . Continued from Page 1

a fair rate of return even under meaningful rent control.

Brennan cites the fact that landlords make most of their profit on the appreciation of a building once improvements are made. Rent control ordinances allow for the cost of improvements to be recovered by rent increases spread over a specified number of years. But, Brennan said, "many landlords want to jack up the rent to cover the cost of an improvement immediately in the first year. The building is thus appreciated, and then they turn around and take the depreciation allowance on their taxes. That's called 'superprofits.'"

Prop. 10 would be hard to swallow for most renters, but the elderly on fixed incomes would be particularly hard hit. Asked whether owners should assume any responsibility toward tenants who may be squeezed out by inflation, Dixon replied that "the social problems that result from inflation definitely have to be addressed, but Prop. 10 deals only with housing and can't solve that."

She admitted, however, that the proposition could create a "fallout on certain segments of renters that have difficulty keeping up with the CPI."

Brennan and her group feel the right to affordable housing supercedes the right to make a profit. "A landlord shouldn't be allowed to make unfair profits off someone's home. We regulate utility companies because they provide vital services. There's no reason why we shouldn't also regulate housing as a vital resource and necessity for all people," she said.

### Construction Incentive?

One of the arguments used by backers of 10 is that the measure would encourage construction of new housing

stock in California, where building has virtually come to a standstill. Dixon: "Rent control ordinances so far have discouraged any new construction of rental housing. To assure owners a return on their investment and to keep construction going on in the state, we must allow them to keep pace with inflation, and create an environment that's stable."

Kay Pachtner, longtime Noe Valley consumer activist and head of the No on 10 campaign in District 5, agrees that housing is a vital issue. She and many others have been working on the "people's side of the housing movement" for many years. For example, they have attempted to fund neighborhood non-profit housing corporations through federal subsidies. Lately, however, these have been sacrificed because of new tight-fisted federal policies.

Pachtner says, "We have to start looking for new solutions in this town. But the argument by advocates of 10 about the need to encourage new building by ending rent control is baloney. We didn't have rent control in this state until very recently, and yet builders haven't created needed new housing for 20 years. All rent control laws traditionally exempt new construction anyway."

Pachtner blames the lack of housing starts on the high capital requirements of construction, not the threat of rent control.

### Money for Votes

Another provision of Prop. 10 requires that future rent control laws be passed by a vote of the electorate. Local boards and councils would no longer have the authority to pass such laws.

Brennan says this was motivated by the landlords' recognition that voters are more easily swayed by ad campaigns than boards of supervisors.

"Landlords have a lot of money and they can afford to buy themselves elections. They spent a tremendous amount of money and bought themselves the Prop. R [rent control] election, and before that the Prop. U [renter's rebate] election," she said.

To get the initiative on the ballot, backers spent \$1.7 million. The Yes on 10 Committee declined to estimate how much it would spend on the campaign,

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*It's a seller's market in more ways than one in Noe Valley. This sign was stapled on a pole on Douglass Street near Jersey. All the phone number tags had been removed.*

but opponents guessed that at the rate money is being spent on expensive television advertising, the initiative's backers would spend close to \$10 million.

Dixon does not recognize money as an issue, however. "We're in a position where we're advocating something, and we need to get out a message about what that is. Our opposition has made a big deal about the money, but you can't buy votes in this country and you can't buy them in California. The money is used to get the message out, but it's up to the voters to decide what they want to do."

Several lawsuits were filed last year, charging the Prop. 10 campaign with fraud and deception in its initiative process.

One suit came up for a ruling and was settled in the campaign's favor, but, even so, insists Brennan, the measure "probably has the dubious distinction

of being the initiative that got on the ballot with the most dishonesty in the history of California.

"People were asked to sign petitions described simply as 'rent control.' Courts are extremely reluctant to interfere in the election process, and the argument is made in these situations that the person signing did have the opportunity to read the initiative."

The campaign paid workers 50 cents for each signature they collected, and the validity rate of signatures was 42 percent, an extremely low figure for an initiative, she said.

Dixon defends the campaign against charges of fraud, saying that touting the measure as "rent control" was fair because "it is balanced between considerations for renters and considerations for owners. It's easy to yell fraud without looking at what the measure really does."

The Yes and No committees will continue their distinctively different campaigns between now and June 3. You will probably hear and see radio and television ads urging yes on 10. The main thrust of that campaign, however, will occur in southern California, where chances of passage are better.

People asking a no vote on 10 plan to rev up their grassroots efforts this month, through a voter registration drive, door-to-door literature distribution, and a get-out-the-vote on June 3. (For campaign events, see the Calendar section.)



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# A Plethora of Props

By Dan McLoughlin

Although potting hoots will not be open for about a month, state and local election officials are busy organizing another dizzying array of ballot propositions and proposals.

Information pamphlets will be ready soon, and interested voters can study their choices in detail. But for now, to lend some clarity to the alphabet soup, here's a preview of the initiatives on the June 3 ballot.

## City and County

The line-up of local propositions is dominated by those measures designed simply to raise money for the City's depleted coffers. Propositions L through S comprise the mayor's budget and tax package. Prop. L wants a penny per gallon of gas; Prop. Q is the payroll and gross receipts tax; Prop. N hopes to squeeze a few hucks out of the airport concession stands, and Prop. O will tax those who rent a hotel room.

Prop. M is likely to stir some controversy because it calls for removing a provision which ties the cable car fares to those charged by the rest of Muni. Prop. M would allow the cable car fare to be set independent of the other Muni services. Proponents of Prop. M envision charging one buck to ride the cable car in an apparent attempt to soak up a little extra cash from the tourists. Opponents say local riders would be penalized (although you can still board with a Fast Pass) and that it is bad policy to divide the Muni this way.

The Initiative to Tax the Corporations (Prop. V) is not part of the mayor's tax package and stands alone for other reasons. Under this initiative, local corporations with more than \$2½ million in annual gross receipts and a yearly payroll of \$250,000 or more would be taxed at a rate sufficient to generate 60 percent of all City revenues allocated for school and housing authority services. There is also a provision authorizing a 20 percent "payroll reduction tax," to be levied when a corporation's payroll drops more than \$100,000 in one year.

## City Administration

Other local propositions deal with housing revenue bonds (Props. A and B) and with various aspects of City administration (Props. C, D, E, F, H, I, J and K). Most of these call for additional City employees or for increased benefits for current City employees, and all are quite modest.

Prop. J would increase the salaries of the Board of Supervisors from \$9,600 a year to one-fourth of the mayor's annual salary, excluding benefits. On July 1, the mayor's salary will automatically go to \$67,500, so the supervisors would get close to \$17,000, plus a raise whenever the mayor gets one. The supervisors have not received a pay hike since 1965.

Finally, Prop. T calls for rescinding the 1976 Sewer Bond Issue because

of inflation and high interest costs. This proposal has drawn strident criticism, chiefly because the City's compliance with federal waste disposal standards may be jeopardized if the authorized improvements to the sewer system are not made.

## State Ballot Propositions

As usual, the State propositions generally present issues of greater variety and complexity than their local counterparts. However, the basic issue in 1980 remains the same: Do the voters wish to prevent a decline in basic government services and, if so, whose bankroll should be tapped to maintain the standard?

The 1980 statewide primary election has 11 ballot measures. Props. 1 and 2 are general obligation bond measures. Unlike revenue bonds, which are paid off through receipts such as bridge tolls, general obligation bonds are backed by the taxing power of the state. Props. 3 through 8 are proposed constitutional amendments placed on the ballot by the California legislature. Props. 9 and 10 are initiative constitutional amendments and Prop. 11 is an initiative statute.

Prop. 1 seeks authorization for the sale of \$495 million in general obligation bonds to finance the acquisition of state and local parks, wildlife preservation projects, and water conservation programs.

Prop. 2 seeks funds to continue the California Veterans Farm and Home purchase program by issuing \$750,000 in general obligation bonds.

Prop. 3 would place constitutional limits on the legislature's ability to alter the restored historical areas of the state capital.

Prop. 4 is somewhat more subtle, and is designed to modify Section 34 of the California constitution. As it is now, when a government entity wants to build a low-income housing project, it must put the issue to a referendum. Prop. 4 would require a referendum only if a petition is signed by at least 10 percent of the qualified voters in the jurisdiction where the project would be located. Proponents of Prop. 4 argue that it will encourage the building of low-cost housing by removing a barrier to such developments.

Prop. 5 seeks to beef up the state's shield law by incorporating it into the California constitution. A shield law is one which gives new media personnel the right to refuse to disclose confidential sources of information to government agencies.

Prop. 6 would update the reapportionment provisions of the state constitution in light of recent decisions by the U. S. Supreme Court concerning establishment of voting districts. Opposition to the measure centers on the apparent failure of the drafters to specify the status of illegal aliens under the apportionment plan.

Props. 7 and 8 would authorize the state government to use public funds to aid private parties. Prop. 7 provides

authority to assist property owners after a disaster. Prop. 8 asks authority to assist private industry in converting to alternate energy sources.

## Props. 9 Through 11

Howard Jarvis is with us once again, still spreading the conservative gospel of economist Arthur Laffer. Prop. 9, also known as Jaws II, would do the following:

- Add a constitutional provision which mandates that the state personal income tax rates shall not exceed 50 percent of the rates in effect during 1978;

- Require the legislature to provide an indexing system for adjusting personal income tax brackets to reflect annual changes in the California Consumer Price Index, and

- Exempt business inventories from property tax.

Presently, state income tax provides about 36 percent of the State's general fund. State income tax revenue in 1979-80 is estimated at \$6.3 billion without Prop. 9. If it passes, this total would be reduced to \$1.4 billion. With the State currently operating at a deficit, legislators are not exactly looking forward to a \$4.9 billion tax cut.

The rent control issue makes an appearance at the state level with Prop. 10, which places restrictions on government officials when passing rent control legislation. Prop. 10 would prohibit the State from passing any rent control measures and would severely limit local governments when passing such laws. It also guarantees landlords rent increases conforming to the Consumer Price Index. (See story on Page 1.)

Prop. 11 may return to the public sector between five and ten percent of the revenue lost if Prop. 9 passes. The measure seeks to put a statute on the books which would levy a 10 percent surtax on the business income of energy-related companies operating in Cali-

fornia.

Public utilities and "alternate" energy producers are exempted, so the oil companies would pay most of the estimated \$300 to \$400 million in revenues this year. They shouldn't mind since they can claim a larger credit against their federal taxes. Uncle Sam could be the real loser under Prop. 11.

The winners would be public transportation users. Revenues from Prop. 11 are to be deposited in a special transportation account, set up to fund improvements in public transit and development of alternative fuels.

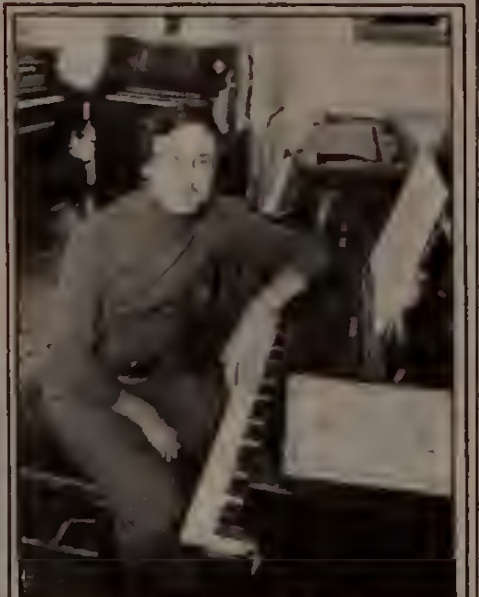


Photo by Charles Kennard

Noe Valley pianist Cesar Cancino will give a special benefit concert May 25 at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

Brahms' "Variations on a Theme of Paganini" and Bach's Prelude and Fugue in C Major, as well as works by Schubert, Haydn and Schoenberg, will be featured at the 4 p.m. concert. A \$3 donation is asked to benefit the Noe Valley Ministry piano fund.

Cancino has performed extensively in the Bay Area and throughout the country, and is currently on the faculty of Community Music Center.

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## First Lady of Tap . . . . . *Continued from Page 1*

personality Kathryn Croshy and her daughter Mary Francis, now a star on "Dallas," are just two of the celebrities who have "shuffled off to Buffalo" on her studio floor.

May was born and raised in the Mission District, the only child of the founder of the Butcher's Union. Her mother and father were eager to see their curly-haired daughter dance and sing so she started lessons as a young child.

Frances Dougherty, who later went on to Vaudeville's Orpheum Circuit, was May's first dancing and singing instructor. She also studied with Pearl Allen, sister of Gracie Allen and one of the Allen Sisters, another act on the Orpheum Circuit. Originally, the Allens taught Irish step-dancing, part of their cultural heritage, and later tap dance and hallet. Pearl taught at the American Hall, then at 20th and Capp Streets, and at her home in the Richmond District.

Another teacher of May's and an important influence on the method of tap she teaches today was Reed McLane, whose loose, natural style was

similar to that of Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, perhaps the most famous of screen tap dancers.

May performed as a child, but passed up many opportunities to travel because she felt she couldn't leave her family to go on tour. "As a result," she says, "I found out early that I enjoy teaching as much as I would have enjoyed performing, and I especially like working with children."

When May was 14, she was already student teaching for Pearl Allen. Then when Miss Allen married, she turned over her school to May and another student, Madelyn Greene. Greene later moved to Marin, becoming one of the Bay Area's foremost folk dancing teachers.

Though still a high school student, May decided to move the studio into her home. She and her mother converted their living room into a dance space by removing the furniture every time a class was held.

When she married several years later and moved to the house on Guerrero, May continued her teaching in the



Photo by Charles Kennard

While proud parents look on, Betty May leads a class of young tap dancers in her Guerrero Street studio. This irresistible group entertains frequently in parks and halls in San Francisco.

basement of her new home, eventually remodeling it as a studio.

In the 30 years since, her students have demonstrated their talents before countless audiences, both locally and on national television. The Betty May Dancers performed at the annual May Day celebrations formerly held at Kezar Stadium. They performed twice on the Tennessee Ernie Ford Show. During World War II, she did two to three shows a week at Bay Area Army bases and hospitals. These variety shows gave her dancers an opportunity to work with professional entertainers and were "great fun for everyone." But, May added sadly, during the Vietnam War the enthusiasm for the shows was not the same.

Currently, the Betty May Dancers perform for seniors, Masonic Lodges, Shrine Hospital, Laguna Honda Hospital and numerous benefits. They do yearly fashion shows at Macy's, the Emporium and Serramonte Shopping Center, and a benefit for cerebral palsy at Tanforan Shopping Center. They also appear regularly on the Italian Hour with Roger Boschetti on Channel 20.

May refreshes her material each year with the Dance Caravan, a touring school at which teachers stay in step with national trends in the dancing profession. She is also a member of the Dance Masters of America (DMA), a prestigious organization which teaches new dances at its monthly meetings.

When she first joined DMA over 20 years ago, May says, tap dancing was "low man on the totem pole." Today she has more adult students than ever before, including doctors, attorneys and housewives. She frequently hears remarks such as, "I've always wanted to do this, ever since I was a child."

She attributes this new interest in tapping to several trends. For one, there's been a revival of old-time musicals with tap dancing like "No, No

Nannette," a hit from the 1920s which was resurrected about six years ago. Also, people with more leisure time have found that tapping is a fun and relaxing way to get exercise, she said. In addition, tap is a melting-pot dance form. It is derived from African rhythms, Irish step-dancing and Scottish clogging, and has British influences as well. There are even traces of Spanish flamenco dancing.

Tapping is not May's only area of expertise. Acrobatics has always been a part of her school program, even before the recent rise in popularity of gymnastics. These days her best acrobats join gymnastic teams rather than perform, she said. But May isn't bothered. She feels her well-rounded program of tumbling, acrobatics and ballet gives a strong foundation to those youngsters who want to become gymnasts.

In addition to running two studios (she operates another at 1524 Geneva Ave.), May teaches tap at ACT. This started 12 years ago when she was asked to teach the company members some tap steps for a particular show. William Ball, the director, was so impressed he decided that tap should be a regular part of the Conservatory's program for youngsters.

May enjoys working with professionals, although she admits, "I still don't think there has ever been a child performer as great as Shirley Temple."

Recreational and professional tapping are a world apart, however, May says. "In order to become a professional dancer, you need to study first of all ballet; and modern jazz helps your style."

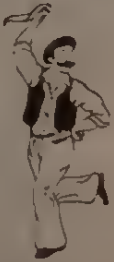
She stresses the importance of finding a teacher you can admire and respect "in order for anything to get across."

Attend one of Betty May's classes and you will see why so many people of all ages have learned to tap their troubles away.



The Betty May Dancers, here tapping out a lively Charleston, were frequent performers at USO shows in the Bay Area during World War II

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## Library To Stay Open, But Staff and Services Face Cuts

By Robert W. Shurtleff  
for Neighborhood News Service

The good news is that they are not planning to close the Noe Valley Branch Library. The bad news is that it may not be a library anymore.

The San Francisco Library Commission has come up with a plan to keep the libraries functioning under the severe budget cuts recently ordered by the mayor, but sharp reductions in services are nonetheless contemplated.

The plan calls for three levels of library service at the branches. Five regional branches would retain full library services at much the same level as this past year. The nearest of these to Noe Valley is the Mission Branch, on 24th Street near Mission Street.

Several other branches will be opened in pairs, with one group of librarians and clerical help managing both branches. Each branch would be open two or three days a week.

Finally, at the bottom of the list, will be the "reading centers." They will have no reference help, no story hour, no art exhibits and no librarian. A library technician will be there to check out books.

The Noe Valley Branch, 451 Jersey St., is scheduled to become a reading center.

With 13 years on the staff of the San Francisco Public Library, Noe Valley Librarian Margaret Wyatt will not lose her job if the library becomes a reading center, but she will have to leave the branch. There will be no position for a professional librarian.

"The heart of our work is book selection, reference and reading guidance," she said. "A children's librarian is a genius at giving the right book to the right child at the right time."

In addition to Wyatt, the Noe Valley Branch staff includes Children's Librarian Katharine Gilmartin, who handles reference for all ages and reading levels of children.

If the branch loses its professional staff, Wyatt continued, "Book selection for this reading center will not be done by a person who is on the scene in the neighborhood, responding to immediate neighborhood interests. You have to make sure that you're really taking into account what people want and not selecting books from the vantage point of someone in an office who has five branches and says, 'Oh, well, this is a best seller, that's an important book,' and so forth."

To Wyatt, a reading center bears little resemblance to a library. "There's a quantitative and qualitative difference," she said. "It's important that people know beforehand what it will mean, that they don't have the idea that since it's not going to close, therefore it's saved."

## District 5 Plans Uses for Harvey Milk Center

A neighborhood employment service, a center for childcare, and a clinic for lesbians and gay men are among the proposed uses for the Harvey Milk Neighborhood Center, to be located in District 5.

"These are some of the needs we've identified so far," said Adrienne Fuzee, community organizer for the center. "and we're continuing to evaluate the services of and work with local organizations who are interested in taking part."

A total of \$375,000 in HUD community development funds has been allocated by the Board of Supervisors for site acquisition. But HUD must first approve a detailed proposal, and, in

The reading center plan came about after hundreds of people descended on the Library Commission to protest the closing of neighborhood libraries. Earlier plans had called for the closing of many smaller branches, including the Noe Valley Library, and providing full service at the branches that remained.

Not all librarians agree with Wyatt that the reading center plan will mean less services for patrons. Flo Mitchell, president of the Librarians Guild, thinks that tiny buildings and shrinking book budgets have made many branches into reading centers already, where the services of a professional librarian are wasted.

"Betty Gibson, our library tech, can run this place as well as I can," said Mitchell, gesturing toward the Eureka Valley Branch which she heads. "I have 12 years experience as a reference librarian, but I don't get any reference questions here. People drop off their children here while they go shopping. We have money to buy a few books, but... This is a reading center and a day care center. There's no other city in the world that would call this a library. And in San Francisco this is called a medium-sized branch. Noe Valley is much smaller."

There's still a chance the plan to convert the Noe Valley Branch to a reading center may not come to pass. "The library picture is not hopeless," Wyatt said. "What I hope is that Proposition 9 does not pass and SB-958, the library bailout bill, does pass, and that people constantly communicate to the mayor and the Board of Supervisors to leave the library budget alone, leave it at 100 percent. It's going to take that triple thrust."

Mary Louise Strong, president of Keep Libraries Alive, also urges passage of the mayor's revenue proposals, Props. L-S on the June 3 ballot. "Our two-pronged attack is to oppose Prop. 9 and to get voters' approval of the revenue measures on the ballot. Those are absolutely essential. If they don't get through, our city services are going to go down the drain."

"We've had a verbal commitment from the mayor for 100 percent of last year's budget if she gets her revenue package. I think it's going to depend on Prop. 9," she said.

Despite the precarious status of her job here, Margaret Wyatt is committed to Noe Valley. She has lived in the neighborhood for years and walks to work every day. She just moved to a new home on the corner of Church and Elizabeth Streets.

"I can't imagine anything I would like better than to stay here," she said. "If there is any chance of Noe Valley being any kind of a library, I will be there."

in addition to finding a site, the Harvey Milk Neighborhood Center Board must develop methods for making the center self-supporting.

Fuzee stresses the need for further community participation. "Some of the groups we've been working closely with are the Childcare Switchboard, Noe Valley Nursery School, Huckleberry House and Haight-Ashbury Senior Services. But we need the help and input of all the people in District 5," Fuzee said.

"The community has the right to choose what their center will be."

You can give the board a call at 861-2427 or stop by the office, 480 Castro St.

## Mini-News



Women artists seeking international exposure need not travel themselves to show their work abroad. The Women's Muse, a San Francisco-based women's art organization, has organized an exchange show to take place in Berlin, Germany, in February of 1981. The deadline for receipt of slides showing one's work is June 15, 1980.

The staff at Women's Muse is concerned about the difficulties women confront regarding survival in the world of art. Among their aims are the promotion of women artists; international exhibition of Bay Area women's art work; the exchange of feminist iconography, and the encouragement of international dialogue.

For further information and entry forms for the Berlin show, contact Carrie Lederer, 826 14th St., San Francisco, 94114.



An Election Forum will highlight the May 8 meeting of Friends of Noe Valley at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. The public is invited to hear speakers present the pros and cons of selected measures on the June 3 ballot.

Propositions to be discussed include Prop. V, the initiative to tax the corporations; Prop. 10, the rent initiative; and Props. O through S, which comprise elements of the mayor's revenue package.

Prior to the election debate, city Traffic Engineer Norman Bray will be on hand to talk about possible remedies to the inconvenience created by mechanical street sweeping, recently started in

### Noe Valley

The Friends meeting, beginning at 8 p.m., will also review plans for the June 22 Noe Valley Street Fair



In March, 1979, 250 people joined Ram Dass and Stephen Levine for two nine-day gatherings at a retreat center in the Mojave Desert. The participants came to confront death. Many who came had life-threatening diseases. Many were in grief. Many were nurses, doctors, and therapists who work with dying patients. Many were simply aware that they would not be free until they had come to terms with their own mortality."

So wrote Jo Luther and Joseph Tieger, partners in Original Face Video of Noe Valley, who were present during this event to videotape the meditations, group processes, individual sharing, and lectures by Ram Dass and Levine.

They have refined their raw footage into three 1½-hour sessions which will be shown at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30, May 7, 14 and 21.

Among the topics explored in the three programs are the different stages of dying, the motivation of people attending the seminar; how to deal with grief, pain and relationships; and one's spiritual journey and social responsibility.

To support the efforts of Original Face Video in making these programs available to a wider public, a \$3 donation is requested.

Continued on Page 13

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# Getting High .....

Photos by Charles Kennard



## One Man's Journey

By Frank Ahern

You begin the conquest of Twin Peaks with no small amount of trepidation. The risks are great. Will the journey prove too tough for your long-atrophied, world-weary flesh? Will you discover a Shangri-la so enticing that return to the daily cares of hus-zone parking, hill neglecting and teeth flossing seems no longer possible?

Will the king of the mountain, the Mount Sutro TV tower, choose this moment to re-enact the alien invasion from "War of the Worlds" and, marching down into the defenseless valley, crush you, pitiful earthling, beneath its grinding girders?

Alas, you'll never know until you take that first fateful step. It is time. Go west on 24th Street, young man.



From 24th and Castro (ah, Fidel), across (the sexual) Diamond, onward past (Dustin) Hoffman Street... up, up, up you push, rediscovering gravity.

Already the roar of the city has receded behind you. The twittering of sparrows and the squeak of your Puma soles on the steady incline are now louder than the distant strains of a hun-

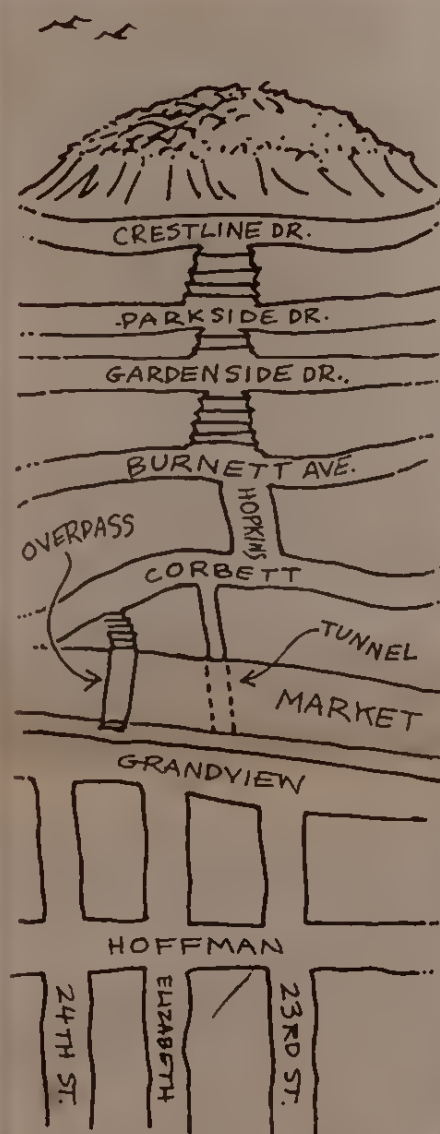


dred infernal combustion engines. At last you are free of the clouds of petroleum belched from raucous Munimonsters.

By now you're breathing deeply, the backs of your legs are tingling, and beads of sweat are dampening your armpits. When you reach the horizontal at the top of the hill, your body insists that you pause. End 24th Street. Begin Grand View. You cannot resist the impulse to turn around and behold. Your eye is irresistibly drawn past a sudden expanse of rooftops, down the hill deep into the valley and out across the Mission flatlands to the glistening bay.

Time stands still for a moment before you again turn west, only to be faced with the massive concrete underbelly of the Upper Market freeway. It towers over you like the roof of a great dark cave. Over to the left, you see a paved pathway through the moist beds of ivy that cover the earth under the highway. You follow the path across and climb a flight of pink steps through the fuchsia bushes to emerge on the other side of the freeway.

You're now certain, this is absolutely, positively, *out* of Noe Valley. Twin Peaks apartment buildings loom over a never-ending stream of cars, maniacally racing between the eastern and western halves of the city. The solid blocks of view-hogging apartments stand in your way, but your urge to climb has



VOICE PRECISION GRAPHICS & CARTOGRAPHY

Continued on Page 9

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## A Walk Up 24th Street

The top of Twin Peaks and its spectacular panoramic view is a surprisingly short hike from Noe Valley. For an invigorating escape from the pressures of city life and a gas- and guilt-free excursion, try this route.

Walk west up 24th Street, past Hoffman, Burnham and Grand View, until 24th dead-ends at the elevated Upper Market Street freeway. From there, follow a pathway under the freeway to Corbett Street. Or those preferring an aerial view of San Francisco's answer to the Indianapolis 500 can take a nearby footbridge over Market.

At Corbett, turn right and walk a block or so until you reach Hopkins Avenue. Take a left on Hopkins to continue your ascent. Once past this point, you will encounter a series of flights of steps leading up to succeeding terraces and finally to the bare hillside (see diagram).

Walking time from 24th and Grand View to the foot of the hillside is about 15 minutes. Hiking from there to the top takes anywhere from 5 to 20 minutes, depending on your physical stamina and spiritual orientation, be it goal or process.

*Continued from Page 8*

been aroused and will not be satisfied until you have reached the summit. You search for a way to circumvent them.

Aha, there's Corbett, a level street offering a restful change of pace. You go right on Corbett, eventually arriving at Hopkins Avenue, which beckons you upward and westward. Instinctively laboring up to the next terrace, you find another wall of buildings opposing your journey. But this time there's an obvious yellow brick road. A steep flight of concrete steps lies conveniently straight ahead. One more series of steps separates earth and sky. Your pace quickens. You are anxious to get high enough to see over the top. And then abruptly, you come face to face with the Peaks—in all their near-virgin glory.



The heather-green, red-rocked flank of the mountain reaches unspoiled to the sky. Crossing the last piece of manmade pavement, you approach the raw hillside with a deep sense of kinship with the earth. You grasp the sun-hot red rock and start to clamber up the steep slope. Loose stones clatter down in mini-landslide as your feet grope for a sure footing, sometimes slipping to pitch you forward on your hands. But you adapt quickly and, like a goat, carefully negotiate a safe path upward.

About halfway up, the hill yields a gentler slope, covered with grass and

## ..... on Twin Peaks



heather and dotted with small yellow and purple flowers. Now you can slump down in the grass and gaze east at the Valley below. Some landmarks help you get your bearings—the spires of St. Paul's and St. Philip's, the larger buildings of James Lick and Alvarado.

You could stay there for hours, basking in the warm sunshine, enjoying the sing-song banter of the birds, contemplating the vast panorama below you.

But the ultimate exhilaration is to make your way right to the top. Pick a peak. From there you can see the Farallone Islands on the horizon and gaze in awe at the stupendous City and Bay of San Francisco spread elegantly before you. The sharp bite of the ocean air hraces you as it is sucked across the edge of the continent into the hot interior.

Enjoying spontaneous meditation, now connected with ocean, sky and land, you linger on the top. Time passes unnoticed until the afternoon's chill forces you back to physical consciousness. Can you accept the unavoidable return to urban reality?

Yes, because you know the Peaks will call you again. And you will not hesitate.



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Monferrato applies airbrush overlays to his silkcreens to create a misty, foggy effect.

Photo by Irene Kane

## Monferrato's Light, Sea and Landscapes

By Nina Goldfeather

"Art should be an uplifting experience," he proposes. "I would like to bring light into people's lives." Albert Monferrato accomplishes this, and much more.

His work brightens up the otherwise subdued decor at Finnegan's Wake. Poster-size prints by Monferrato, hanging in many business and professional waiting rooms, take the edge off the wait.

Two downtown galleries carry his

prints, but mostly his art is sold through friends in Noe Valley. Quite a few own at least one of his limited editions, and the circle of "collectors" widens by the week.

Monferrato chose a career in art while still a high school student in Philadelphia. "I saw freedom in being a successful artist," he recalls. "I believe perseverance to be the essential element for success, and I never wavered from the idea of becoming an artist."

In 1962, he began his study of painting at the Philadelphia College of Art, later attending the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. A year in Florence at the Academia di Bella Arte led to his first exhibition at that city's Galleria Indiano in 1967.

Upon returning to the U.S., Monferrato was introduced to the silkscreen process, and subsequently produced a series of theater posters and prints.

Since his move to San Francisco 10 years ago, Monferrato has divided his time between his own silkscreen studios in the San Francisco and Philadelphia areas. He has conceived and produced most of his recent prints in his home studio on Valley Street.

"The West Edge" is Monferrato's current work. A suite of eight 26" x 40" silkscreen prints, it depicts timeless views of the California landscape. Each is signed and numbered in a limited edition of 300. Commissioned and financed by a group of young entrepreneurs in Philadelphia, "The West Edge" series has occupied him almost exclusively for the last year and a half.

The eternal aspects of a geographic location provide inspiration for this latest work. "In 'West Edge, I'm not interested in the works of man, but in creation itself," says Monferrato. "Geological events overshadow the human condition, nature wins out over man."

One of the most intriguing prints of the suite is "Second Sun." A line of palm trees against a blue sky in which there are two suns, it contains "symbols of my own ideas about life and the nature of reality," he explains. "It is the birth of the higher self, a transcendence of the intellect." It is also a strikingly beautiful work of art.

For Monferrato, a successful picture is one like "Second Sun," which works on several levels, aesthetically and symbolically. Sometimes, however, a print may simply reflect the mood of the month. "Bay Blues" was conceived during the chilly months of last winter. He gave the silkscreen a misty, foggy quality with white airbrush overlays. "Golden Gate," by contrast, is cheerful, light and carefree. It was done as spring came to San Francisco.

The printmaking process has influenced Monferrato's work and his thoughts about the "availability" of art. "My earlier paintings had the precision of prints, and I found that I was able to do what I wanted within the structure of the screen printing craft."

This realization led to another. "I am able to reach more people with the silkscreen media as more people can afford my work. It's much more democratic."

Here in San Francisco, and especially in Noe Valley, Monferrato prefers to sell his work to individuals—a slower, less lucrative process than using galleries as agents. He finds that "people like to know the artist, the whole experience becomes more coherent."

Like many creative individuals, Monferrato eschews dealing with the "business" of art. However, unlike many artists, Monferrato has found a satisfactory method whereby he can support himself without compromising the creative process.

His peers are his patrons, and he, in return, enhances their lives with color, elegance, and a glimpse into their higher selves.

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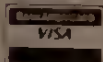
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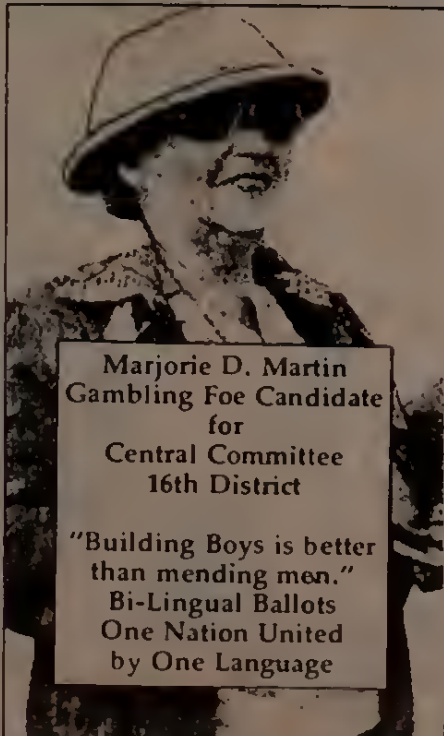
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"Second Sun" is part of Albert Monferrato's recent suite of silkscreen prints titled "The West Edge."

#### The Tree

I woke up this morning with the sun shining on me, I went to the window sill and I saw a big big tree. I stared at that tree and he stared back at me.

I said to myself he doesn't have any eyes so how can he stare back at me.

By Melissa Elia  
Age 10  
The Buena Vista Annex  
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The Noe Valley Voice welcomes submissions from neighborhood young people. Poems, cartoons and stories should be mailed to the Voice by the 20th of each month. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope for return.

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# ARTIFACTS

By Judith Lynch



1975: The house at 4078 23rd St. as it appeared under a smooth coat of stucco.



Today: Reborn as a "Stucco" Victorian, the house now features recreated millwork and trim.

Photo by Irene Kane

## A Cure for the Common Stucco

Noe Valley contains about 2,100 Victorian buildings, according to a survey taken in 1976. About half have been modernized, dismal evidence of the "misguided improvements" made after the 1906 earthquake when fancywork fell from favor. Victorian gingerbread was discarded, and redwood siding was covered with other materials, such as asbestos shingles, stucco or permastone.

The subject of this month's "Artifacts" is a Noe Valley Victorian which was eventually liberated from its stucco mask and restored to its original 19th century splendor. The house at 4078 23rd St., between Castro and Noe Streets, now displays the embellishments of its youth, thanks to the efforts of its owners Harry and Bernadine Barr, a couple with deep affection for Noe Valley and its old houses.

Harry Barr was a loan officer for an AID mission to the Honduras in the early 1970s. His wife Bernadine, who was pregnant at the time, remembers lying awake at night dreaming out loud, "I want to live in San Francisco and fix up a Victorian house."

They came to the City just for a visit, but auspicious circumstances resulted in their moving here. Harry interviewed for his present position at Wells Fargo Bank and was accepted immediately. They spent four hours looking for a house and chanced upon a cottage on Elizabeth Street, their introduction to Noe Valley. They enjoyed the neighborhood so much, they decided to stay here and search for a larger house.

They still remember the night in 1975 when they first saw the 23rd Street house. They had told a local realtor their requirements: a Victorian with a bay window, a yard, a garage and space for Bernadine's studio. When the realtor called, they went over immediately, even though flu had felled the whole family, which now included 1½-year-old Jimmy.

The house was well hidden; a previous owner had smothered the exuberant detail under a streamlined stucco shell. But as soon as they went inside, the Barrs knew it was actually a vintage house. The etched glass skylight and wooden wainscoting were welcome reminders of its origins.

Although it was disguised with stucco, at heart 4078 23rd St. was a Stick-style building, with the rectangular bay window and false front typical of the 1880s. The *California Architect and Building News* lists the home in its September, 1891, issue: The cost was \$3,650, a typical price for a modest single-family, two-story structure. It was designed by architects Salfield and Kohlberg and completed by contractor Henry Rohling in 35 days for dry goods dealer Samuel Axelrod.

The Barrs' project provides a useful example for others who might want to buy and restore a Victorian. Bernadine gives a vivid account of some of their problems and satisfactions.

"I couldn't wait to get my hands on it! I stayed up all night with a yellow tablet drawing floor plans and sketching ideas. I planned five whole years of work in that one burst of excitement. The kitchen was one of our first projects. It was in a gloomy lean-to on the back porch, painted in orange enamel. The termites had worked overtime; you could kick right through the back wall.

I live in my kitchen, and I did not want it to be a slick modern room full of products from Goodman's. Since the house was so dark, I wanted to open it up with a burst of light. I realized that I wanted a kitchen that was like the conservatory in Golden Gate Park.

"One weekend we were tearing the house to shreds, getting rid of some of the tacky remodeling. Our neighbor Bruce Sherman came over. I had already seen some of Bruce's work—the 'crystal' room of faceted glass bays he had built in the house across the street. He made some sketches and designed a shed-roofed kitchen with a series of glass crystals that look like big diamonds. They bring the whole garden indoors. His windows did justice to the Victorian character of the house, and they also made my kitchen into a conservatory."

Restoration of a misguided improvement is a major investment, but the Barrs proceeded despite the expense. They consulted San Francisco Victoriana, the local firm that specializes in authentic recreation of 19th century wooden house fronts. Since they could not find any pre-stucco photographs, Victoriana's designers searched for other clues to help them recreate the millwork and trim correctly.

Bernadine found some cornice brackets in the attic, and the scars underneath the stucco coating furnished other information necessary for the designs. When the restored front was finished, Harry wanted to paint it red and white. "It looked like a birthday cake, and I thought it should be bright colors."

The Barrs offered some advice to others considering restoration. Since renovation is so expensive, many people can save money by learning to do the work themselves. The Barrs did about 80 percent of the work, including sheetrocking, painting, plumbing and wiring. One of Bernadine's major duties was to supply the materials Harry needed on the weekends. "You know, thousands of trips to the hardware store." They both recommend a realistic assessment of your own limitations as well as a careful estimate of how much time you can devote to the house without damaging your family life.

The Barrs are devoted to Noe Valley. They enjoy the human scale and diversity of nearby shops. They know all their neighbors, and Jimmy plays with "the ten kids on the back fence." He and 18-month-old sister Amy can learn a great deal from the variety of people of all ages who live together in harmony in the Valley. The burgeoning bougainvillea in the garden is abundant proof of another reason—our sunny weather.

The restoration of 4078 23rd St. has been mentioned in several books and articles, bringing the Barrs and their home a bit of fame. They often meet people on 24th Street who say, "I read about your house" or "I've watched your work from the beginning." They are content to stay on 23rd Street: "We have found the sun and the space and the neighborhood we want right here!"


*Judith Lynch directs the City Guides, a project of the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library. If you have suggestions for buildings you would like to see featured in "Artifacts," please write to her at The Noe Valley Voice. To learn more about the history and homes of San Francisco, listen to "A Walk with Judith," KALW, 91.7 FM, Thursdays, 4:30 and 10 p.m.*



Photo by Irene Kane

The Barrs' shed-roofed kitchen with its generous use of glass allows a view of the garden outside.

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# Welcome To Neo Valley

By Bill Yard

May Day, 1990

"Daddy! Daddy! Tell me how you met Mama!"

Sarah, his 10-year-old electric offspring, climbed squirming and kicking into Andy's lap, reminding him of his recent hospital stay.

"Honey, what should I do with this shit," Jessica called, "throw it out or feed it to the dog?" She emerged from the kitchen, holding the curried soy loaf over which he had sweated for two hours. So what if it tasted like *slugs vinaigrette*? It had all the essential amino acids!

"On second thought, forget the dog," she continued, walking toward the back door. "He ate that eggplant parmesan you made last month, and we still haven't paid the paramedics."

What can I say, he thought. She brings home the rent.

So by this time Andy's daughter was doing sun salutations, adding swan dives with his stomach as a fulcrum. Ever since the fallout from the big Union Carbide explosion in Calistoga, Sarah had been acting like those octopi they found feeding on the Santa Barbara plutonium dump. She'd go without sleep for several days at a time, except for a comatose period exactly 17 minutes long in the middle.

The EPA told them that she'd suffer no "appreciable" permanent damage, that the "periods of hyperactivity" would eventually cease, and that, in most cases, they could regard the 17 minutes as the eye of the storm.

Folding his newspaper, Andy thought, maybe I can talk her down a little.

\*\*\*

"I met your mother at Bell Market," he replied.

"You mean, in the check-out line?"

"No, Sarah, we were shopping. She was examining the produce and I was looking at the meat."

"Meat?" Sarah asked, finally sitting down on his lap. "They sold meat, at Bell?"

"Oh, yeah," Andy explained. "That was before the Famine of '84, and the Canadian corn embargo."

"What'd you say to her, Daddy?" she asked, sifting through the longer whiskers on his chin. Before he could reply, she remarked, "This'll do," gripping and yanking out a long, healthy tendril.

Andy screeched and jumped to his feet, sending her rolling across the room and tossing her a bouquet of nouns whose fragrance caused the child's mother to snarl threateningly from the kitchen.

"Sorry, Daddy," Sarah giggled, "but it's time to floss Buddha." The hand-me-down retriever snored unwittingly on the couch.

Andy admitted that the dog's breath had improved considerably since Sarah started her urban animal husbandry course on Channel 71.

\*\*\*

"Actually, your mother said the first thing," Andy told the girl, remembering how the attractive young woman had approached him in front of the Celestial Seasonings display...

"Hey, sugar, do you play backgammon?" the woman murmured, with a slight accent, behind a shopping cart containing only a few lemons and a fifth of Cuervo Gold.

The young man blushed, roundly flattered, before stammering, "Yes, well, as a matter of fact, I do, a little, at least."

"Yeah, I thought so," she snapped. "You look like the kind of jerk who plays backgammon."

She pushed on past him, bumping him into the tea rack, sending him sprawling amidst a pile of Red Zinger boxes.

Realizing that the woman had neglected to get his phone number, he hastily reassembled the tea packages and started furtively searching the labyrinthian aisles, but she was already gone. And he knew already...

"Do you know what I knew, Sarah? Sarah?"

Andy looked down. His daughter had fallen asleep on his lap.

"Good job," Jessica said, pecking him on the cheek as she headed for the front door. Grabbing her briefcase and backpack, she called from the top of the stairs, "I'll see you when I get back."



## Health Collective Seeks Members

By Melinda Breitmeyer

In today's world of changing lifestyles, when family structure is rapidly dissolving or mutating, many individuals find themselves alone and unsupported in times of crisis or stress. Now there's a group in Noe Valley that has started a health collective which specifically addresses this problem.

Its goal is to promote and maintain the health of its members. By exchanging their services, the individuals in this group hopes to widen the circle of support traditionally provided by family and close friends.

The collective, calling itself the Noe Valley Healthy Co-op, now has a core group of members, and is looking for others who might wish to join.

Brenda Markham conceived of the idea for the co-op at a time in her life when she was overburdened by several close friends who became ill simultaneously. She and Noe Valley Librarian Margaret Wyatt developed the idea and began the co-op with six friends. They hope eventually to reach an ideal membership size of 30, Markham said.

The group is structured like a babysitting co-op, with each member contributing four hours a month, and each having the opportunity to draw four hours of service a month from other members. Hours may be accumulated and saved against future need, and in a crisis a member may draw more hours on a credit basis. One member will act as a secretary who will keep track of the number of hours given and received, and will help connect a needy member with one who can fill the need. The secretary position will be rotated among the membership.

The types of services to be provided

will be defined by the member requesting them. They may include household chores, transportation or accompaniment to a doctor, babysitting the children, or assisting with insurance forms. Each member will have the opportunity to turn down types of services she cannot or prefers not to do.

One purpose of the co-op is to help during an illness, but an equal emphasis will be placed on prevention of illness through reduction of stress. Markham hopes the co-op will encourage members to learn how to ask others for help.

As she put it, "In everyone's life there are times of low energy and the need for someone else to do the routine and make the tea while you retreat to your bed. Some people are very poor at asking for help, but the co-op will aim at raising consciousness in that area. As members begin giving service to others, they may get the message that it's okay to ask for help for themselves. When you know you're going to be repaying whatever you get, there's no feeling of being dependent."

Markham, who was instrumental in developing La Casa de los Madres, the original battered women's shelter, would like to see the Noe Valley collective become a model for others in the self-health movement.

While the idea is based on practical needs, Markham feels the co-op will have many side benefits. "I feel strongly that it will foster experiences of cooperation, extended family, communication and sharing of ideas."

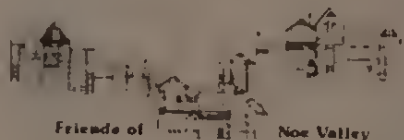
Interested persons who live in Noe Valley and surrounding areas are invited to obtain information on joining the co-op by calling Brenda Markham at 864-6272 or Susan Green at 647-2464.

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## Project Insight Offers Family Recreation for Low-Vision Children

By Charles Kennard

An unusual skiing party spent a weekend in the Sierras last month. Suited up with the help of a group called Environmental Travel Companions and supplied with cartons of food from Bell Market, they set off from Noe Valley to Calaveras County for a weekend of fun.

The expedition was just one of the weekly activities of Project Insight, which provides recreational opportunities for blind and low-vision children and their brothers and sisters, ages 5 to 15.

The project was founded two years ago by Noe Valley resident Kate Sweeney and a group of her co-workers from the California League for the Handicapped. They realized that there were no programs available for visually impaired children involving their siblings and parents, and that such a program could be invaluable to the handicapped and their families.

Traditionally, these children have been segregated from their better sighted peers, and this together with over-protectiveness from their families has often led to dependent children lacking confidence in themselves.

Project Insight is helping to change all this. The volunteer staff calls at the homes of 15 families each Saturday and picks up anybody who wants to come along. They may decide to go to a park, or go swimming, cook up something—or go skiing.

According to Sweeney, this kind of play with sighted children, as well as close contact with adults, encourages visually handicapped children to develop social skills suited to society at

large; the children can explore their personal potential and limits, developing socially and emotionally in a normal way.

Staff member Maria Barsotti tells of one child who when he first came to the program identified himself in terms of the TV cartoon characters with whom he spent much of his time. Through Project Insight he has recognized his own individuality and gained self-confidence, she said.

Based at Sweeney's home on Church Street, the project (phone, 648-8829) depends largely on the labors and contributions of its 10 staff members. However, non-profit status has helped them to raise money from private sources. They are also recipients of a modest grant from Friends of Noe Valley, which had money left over from last year's Noe Valley Street Fair. Parents contribute nominal sums if they are able.

The staffers' weekday professions are varied: among them are a travel agent, a teacher, a Pacific Telephone employee, and Sweeney herself is taking a sales training course. But they all enjoy the company of children and are committed to the project. One feature that distinguishes the group is that they all lack children of their own. Perhaps that's why they take special pleasure in their weekend outings.

For the children, Project Insight means new friends and adventures to places their parents may not even know. Watching and hearing them play, as they chase each other, kick around a football, or grab an outstretched hand, it's easy to forget the meaning of "disadvantaged."



Eduardo gets an extra helping at a family supper in his 24th Street home. Only able to recognize bold shapes and colors, Eduardo relies mostly on touch and sound; around the apartment he can well look after himself.

## MINI-NEWS

Continued from Page 7

If you're between the ages of 7 and 14 and like to sing, you're welcome to audition for the San Francisco Children's Chorus.

Sponsored by the Community Music Center located at 544 Capp St., the children's chorus rehearses Monday and Wednesday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. and gives several public performances during the year. Children pay a yearly registration fee of \$10 after being accepted.

Call 647-6015 for further information and to arrange an audition time.

Put glass, aluminum, tin cans and old copies of *The Noe Valley Voice* to an environmentally productive use by taking them to a recycling center.

Mission High School at 18th and Church Streets is the location for recycling all materials other than cardboard on the second Saturday of each month, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. The Bernal Recycling Center operates every Saturday

from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Farmer's Market, 100 Alemany Blvd. Reuse/Recycle is at Haight and Octavia Streets and is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For other locations and more information, phone the San Francisco Community Recyclers Association at 387-3044.

San Francisco's Charter Commission has developed a speakers bureau to explain the changes proposed in its second draft of the revised city charter to interested individuals, community groups, schools and political organizations.

The speakers will bring a slideshow to illustrate in a lively way San Francisco's unique history and the need for charter revision.

If you or your organization would like to sponsor a meeting with the Charter Commission, or have a speaker attend a regular meeting of your organization, call Ann Gonski or Valerie Rosenkrantz at 552-7887 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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Are you planning to go back to Katmandu or just laze in the sand on Maui? If so, you can save a trip to a downtown travel agency by stopping at Dirt Cheap Travel at 23rd and Vicksburg Streets.

If some travel agencies and airlines don't always reveal the most economical way to your destination, that's not the story at Dirt Cheap. Owners Barry Brady and Mike McGlothlin can arrange charters, group packages, cruises and rail travel, all with your inflation-squeezed pocketbook in mind.

Brady and McGlothlin are in business to serve the people of Noe Valley, so call them Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Mushroom Farm Antiques features glass windows in all their crafted beauty. Stained, beveled and leaded; they're all there. In fact, head Mushroom farmer David Harde claims the largest stock of collectable glass windows in the Bay Area.

Glass is only part of their inventory though. Harde's assistant Lee Comer will show off their unique collection of



Photo by Charles Kennard

turn of the century furniture and jewelry. The Mushroom Farm's pieces come from France and England as well as the United States, and sell at reasonable prices.

Stop by and see their treasures during the store's newly expanded hours Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.



Photos by Charles Kennard

Romping in a dumpster full of newspapers at Crissy Field, kids from Project Insight bury a compliant friend.



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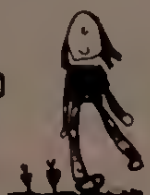
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## Book Review

### A Fiction That Rings True

#### CHAMBER MUSIC

By Doris Grumbach

Fawcett Crest, 1979, 253 pages, \$2.50

Reviewed by Lynn Rogers

Is truth stranger than fiction? If so, how do we find out? Very few people, especially the great ones, ever allow the truth to be known about them. Even if they are willing to reveal it, relatives, friends and editors usually conspire to change it, smooth it over, polish it up. The truth about great people, the damaging truth that is, can almost never be learned. It can, however, be imagined.

*Chamber Music*, says Doris Grumbach, is not biography, it is fiction. "Its three major characters are based, vaguely, upon persons who once were alive, but most of the details of their lives are conjecture and invention." Yet the book is written in the first person singular. The account we get is the "partial and personal, biased truth" of Caroline Newby Maclaren. Her voice is so compelling, so intimate, so involving, that we tend to forget that this is fiction. It is, strangely, more true than most biography.

In 1893, when Caroline Newby was 17, she met and was courted by Roben Maclaren. Although he was only five years older than Caroline, Maclaren was already well on his way to a promising career as a pianist and composer. Innocent and lonely, Caroline was flattered into thinking Robert loved her. After knowing him for only three months, she agreed to marry and went with him to Frankfurt, where he wanted to continue his studies. There, she gave up her own work on the piano—the noise bothered him, he said—and joined his mother's efforts in caring for his every need. She was to continue in this service for the next 15 years.

Maclaren was indifferent to her. His work was his life. From early morning to late evening he was practicing and composing music. What little socializing he did was in the closed fraternity of fellow musicians. Caroline came to notice that "there was a deep, unfathomable alliance among men of talent which involved them wholly, making it impossible for women to enter their consciousness except in a curiously negative way. Remove our services . . . and our absence is remarked upon. Our physical support restored, we sink back to the outer limits of their awareness." Caroline spent her entire married life in silent servitude to Robert's muse. He could not tolerate exterior noise; it would disturb the music he was listening to in his mind.

He was a good composer of American music. By the age of 30 he was universally known and admired. He toured the country and the world playing his pieces, but Caroline stayed at home. Her presence distracted him. He began also to fall prey to strange maladies. His back would become covered with large, oozing sores, and sometimes he had high fevers. His hair fell out in patches, his tongue swelled so badly that he could not swallow. The symptoms came and went, but gradually worsened. The public was not informed of their nature, Caroline was kept ignorant of their cause. When he was 34, his mind began to wander. Physically and mentally, he was deteriorating so rapidly that his doctor gave him less than a year to live. He told Caroline she should get help for him and found her Anna Bauer, a German nurse who came to live on their isolated farm near Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Finally, Roben Maclaren died of his "blood disease." But his nurse Anna did not leave the farm, for she had brought Caroline to "life." Caroline likened her to "the first, soft spring rain: she was moisture to my dried roots." It was late in coming, but it did come for Caroline.

She and Anna established a musical community on the farm, grew a large garden, and, for the next dozen years, knew love.

### Ministry Experiments with Summer Theatre, Cinema Announces Sunday Film Series

A trial run for theatre in Noe Valley will begin in June at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., and will continue for six consecutive weekends.

Previews for Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya," directed by Robert Kippur, will start Thursday, June 12. All performances will be at 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday of each week. The final performance will be Saturday, July 26.

Simultaneously, the Noe Valley Cinema will present a two-month Summer Sunday Series, beginning June 8 and winding up July 27. No films will be shown on Friday nights during June and July.

Summer films, shown at 8 p.m., will include "Beauty and the Beast" by Cocteau (June 8); "Mr. Hulot's Holiday" and "Nothing But Nerves," a

short by Robert Benchley (June 15); "Alambrista" (June 22); "The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T" and "Gerald McBoing Boing" (June 29); a Bugs Bunny tribute (July 6); "Maidstone" by Norman Mailer (July 13); a Charlie Chaplin festival (July 20), and "The Hideaways" with Ingrid Bergman (July 27).

The "Uncle Vanya" run requires some changes in the regular schedule of classes and events at the Ministry building. Folk dance classes led by Saul Fenster on Thursdays and country dancing led by Eric Leber on Saturdays will take vacations during the six-week period. Dolores Shadel's jazz exercise class will shift from Thursday to Wednesday evenings for those weeks.

Those who would like more information on these and other events at the Ministry should call the office, 282-2317, on weekday mornings.

## University Finds Home

An alternative university has taken up residence in Noe Valley. Called Paideia (pronounced "pie-day-ah"), the seven-year-old state-approved school has established its San Francisco residence at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. The school's name derives from the Greek word which Socrates, Plato and Aristotle used to describe their ideals in education, culture and society.

Paideia has granted over 50 degrees, from A.A. to PhD. Among its 25 holders of the doctorate degree are four San Franciscans, including Dr. Sarah Howe, a Noe Valley resident.

Among Paideia's specialties are studies of persons (including psychology), studies of communities (including sociology), studies of power (political science), economics and social life. Instruction is offered in the professional areas of health, law, technology and

communication. The conventional disciplines of the humanities and sciences are also available.

Students can participate in group study or begin independent work under the guidance of the university's staff.

Monthly meetings are held at 1021 Sanchez St. on the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

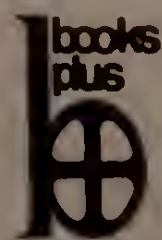
The next meeting will be a "Weekend Academy" held in Santa Cruz May 9-11. The event will feature a sessions on stress management led by Dr. John Mason of Cotati, a meeting with Dr. Page Smith, author of *The Shaping of America*, and discussion of the economic and psychological aspects of surviving the 1980s.

Persons interested in pursuing academic study relating to their own experience are invited to join Paideia. For more information, stop by the Noe Valley Ministry or phone 285-3313 weekdays.

### Fishing Report



MAYBE IT'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION — OR THE RUSSIAN FLEET, BUT THE FISHING IS LOUSY IN NOE VALLEY. THE SEASON OPENING WAS A TOTAL DUMP.



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## 30th St. Community Center for Seniors

Text and photos by Irene Kane

San Francisco Home Health Service not only provides nursing care for housebound seniors, but offers an array of educational and recreational activities at its center on 30th Street near Church Street.

This spring, seniors are participating in classes which include English as a second language, nutrition, yoga, Peruvian weaving, gardening, dress-making, Spanish and calligraphy. The social calendar also provides daily lunches, intimate chats, chess, checkers and bingo.

On Thursdays, visitors can attend the center's health education lecture series, which offers speakers and discussion on a variety of health and social concerns. Talks on high blood pressure, social security problems, hearing, cancer, and a slideshow on earthquakes are on this month's agenda. (See VOICE Calendar, Page 16.)

For more information about these services, call the center at 285-5615.



Ashley Kroterfield, 67, spends many hours in Home Health Service's community garden, tending his horse-radish, rhubarb and marigolds. The garden is open to anyone (not just seniors) and is administered by Joan Teter of the S. F. Community College District.



Sarah Zelidon enjoys her afternoons at the loom. She is learning the basic method of Peruvian weaving in a class taught by Isabel Serna at San Francisco Home Health Service, 255 30th St.

## NOE VALLEY CINEMA

Films are shown Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. near 23rd Street. \$2 general, \$1.50 members, \$1 seniors, 75 cents for kids 12 or under. Robert Heilbuth at piano.

- May 2 Highlights of comedy sequences from MGM features and shorts made before 1947.
- May 9 San Francisco Independent Feature: Issam Makdisy's "Liars Dice. Plus (short) Chris Marker's "La Jetee (The Pier)."
- May 16 Tribute to "B" Movies: "The Amazing Transparent Man" and "Beyond the Time Barrier."
- May 23 Lina Wertmüller's classic "Swept Away."
- May 30 Animation classics, featuring May Fleischer's "Ouija Board" and Winsor McCay's "Bug Vaudeville."

ADVERTISING IS CHEAP in the Classifieds section of The Noe Valley Voice. A mere 10 cents a word. Send copy and check or money order to the Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, 94114.

## Classifieds

**SAXOPHONE INSTRUCTION:** Intermediate to advanced; emphasis on developing technique. Bachelor of music degree from Boston Conservatory of Music. Call 824-4943.

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**INTERESTED IN** intergenerational living? We are looking for someone 50 or older to share housing in Noe Valley with three others. Non-smoker. Rent \$180. Call 648-5013.

**SUBLET.** Great View, two-bedroom home, terraced garden, August, \$450, 824-7174, evenings, weekends.

**ELECTRIC AIRES.** New meters. Circuit breakers City code. Victorian re-wiring (neat & concealed) flats & houses. Bonded license. John Peters, 824-1114.

**WANTED to rent in Noe Valley.** Quiet unfurnished studio apt. Will consider share rental. I work full time and edn The Noe Valley Voice part time. I'm 32. Have references—no pets. Call Jack, 8:30-5, Mon.-Fri. 861-6103.

**NOE VALLEY VOICE tee-shirts.** Wear the tee-shirt with the logo of your neighborhood newspaper. Shirts are all cotton, black with white logo or red with black logo, in men's sizes s, m, l. \$5 each. Send check or money order to The Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, 94114.

**LICENSED Psychotherapist.** Mr. Mass, 922-1259.

**GLIMPSE WONDERS.** Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Strange de Jim, Dept. NV, P.O. Box 14547, San Francisco 94114.

**DEAR LESLIE.** Things are getting desperate. Please send vignettes. Love, J.

**CARPENTER/CABINETMAKER.** Good work, reasonable rates. Decks, lofts, remodeling, drywall, etc. Call Peter at 661-9087.

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### The Messenger

"Cut deep. Take no measurements. Scoop it out. It'll bubble a little, skin over later. In a week it'll heal. Without grudges."

Slam. Before his equipment stopped shaking, JB handed me the envelope. Rectangular, for a change.

"You know the address. Call if you need money."

The concrete door dropped behind me quietly, like a priest sipping brandy. I climbed on Shuga and we were gone.

I stopped on 24th to clean Shuga's feet and pick up some coffee. I still had my cup from last time, so the waitress knocked off a buck. While the coffee steamed down, Shuga and I snorted and felt warm together. The best mare this side of Berkeley.

At one time, thirty years ago, I still had dreams of being in JB's sandals, my picture coming out of the yearbook, the money invested, the smiles in high places. I dunno. The war, and then everything kind of drifted apart, a river raft lost on the ocean. Logs bobbing up and down in the distance. I've always been clumsy. And sometimes the only guy around who's—conceptual?

Shuga is swishing her tail, letting me know it's time to get back to the past tense.

—Bill Yard

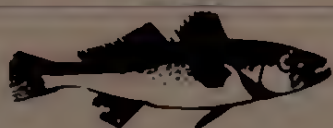


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# CALENDAR

Please send CALENDAR items before the 20th day of the month preceding month of issue to *The Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., S.F., 94114.

**May 2:** Viola recital with Leslie Tompkins accompanied by piano, cello, voice. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2 seniors, students.

**May 3:** Voter registration drive in District 5, sponsored by No on 10 campaign. Volunteers to meet and be trained 10:30 to 12:30 a.m., registration all afternoon. Meet at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

**May 4:** Gala Picnic, celebration of May Day, McLaren Park, noon. Sponsored by Grass Roots Alliance, Yes on V Campaign.

**May 7, 14, 21:** Original Face Video presents films of "Death and Dying" seminar. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$3 donation.

**May 8:** Friends of Noe Valley Election Forum and meeting. Steering Committee, 7 p.m. Election Forum on propositions, 8 to 10 p.m. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St.

**May 9:** Original compositions and improvisation by the R.O.V.A. Saxophone Quartet, New College of California, 777 Valencia St., 8:30 p.m. \$4.

**May 11:** Fundraising party at Denise and Warren Hinckle's house for No on 10 campaign. No-host bar and chit-chat. 263 Castro St., 2 to 5 p.m. \$5 donation.

**May 11:** Mother's Day flute concert with Luch Schoening. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 4 p.m. \$3, \$2 seniors and students.

**May 16:** Concert of Spanish, Italian and gospel songs with Isaac Salinas, tenor. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 8 p.m. Free.

**May 18:** Haight Street Fair. Masonic to Stonyon Streets. All day.

**May 18:** Benefit for the Charlotte Ackerly Memorial Scholarship Fund, with Betty Kaplowitz, a rock band, and other music. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 7 p.m. \$3, \$2 seniors and students.

**May 24:** Concert of original music for guitar, flute, dulcimer and piano by Rubin and Jude Shaw, Laura McHale and Rebecca Wave. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m.

**May 25:** Piano concert by Cesar Cancino, featuring works by Bach, Haydn, Brahms and others. To benefit Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 4 p.m. \$3.

**May 25:** Violin recital by Anne Buxton. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 3 p.m. Free.

**May 25:** Feast of Pentecost. St. Paul's Parish, 221 Valley St.

**May 29:** One Hundred Years of Dancing. St. Paul's Intermediate School. St. Paul's Parish, 221 Valley St. 7:30 p.m.

**May 31:** Solo recital by Victoria Godbey, mezzo-soprano. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 8 p.m. Free.

**May 31-June 1:** Union Street Fair, Gough to Fillmore Streets. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days.

## NOE VALLEY MINISTRY, 1021 Sanchez St., 282-2317

- Exercise (t'ai chi style). Mon., Wed., 11-11:45 a.m. Mon., Tues., Thurs., 6:15-7 p.m.
- Jazz Exercise. Mon., Thurs., 6:15-7:30 p.m. Fee.
- Meditation Class. Mon., May 5, 12, 19, 26. 8-9:30 p.m.
- Beginners' Karate. Mon., 7:30-8:30 p.m. Sat., 1-2 p.m. Fee.
- Intermediate Karate. Tues., 9-10 a.m. Sat., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fee.
- Lunch especially for seniors. Tues. and Thurs., 1 p.m. 50 cents donation.
- Escrima Class (martial arts). Tues., 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fee.
- Square Dance. Tues., May 6, 20. 8-10:30 p.m. String band. \$2.50.
- Seminar: Death & Dying. Wed., May 7, 14, 21. 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$3.
- Legal assistance for seniors. Thurs., 1:45 p.m.
- Darbuka Drum Class. Thurs., 6 p.m. Fee.
- Folk Dance. Thurs., 7:30-9:30 p.m. 6-week course, May 1-June 5. Fee.
- T'ai Chi Chuan. Beginners: Fri., 9:30-10:30 a.m. Continuers, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Continuers: Sat., 10-11:30 a.m. \$2.50.
- Country Dance. Sat., May 3, 17. 7:45 p.m. \$2 donation.
- Noe Valley Arts Concerts. Pentecost Sunday, May 25, 4 p.m. \$3.
- Word and meditation, daily, 8-8:30 a.m.
- Madhatter's Pot Luck & Party. Sat., May 31, 7 p.m.
- Noe Valley Co-op Nursery School. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Paidera University: 285-3313.

## NOE VALLEY LIBRARY, 451 Jersey St., 285-2788

- Women in American Literature Class. Wed., 2-4 p.m.
- Community Garden Workdays. 2nd & 4th Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Preschool Story Hours. Tues., 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
- Story Hour for ages 6-10. Thurs., 4 p.m.

## S. F. HOME HEALTH CENTER, 255 30th St., Social Room, 2nd Floor.

- May 1: "Facts about High Blood Pressure," 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- May 8: "Social Security—Questions and Answers," 11-12 a.m.
- May 15: "Hearing," 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- May 22: "Earthquake" slideshow, American Red Cross. 11-12 a.m.
- May 29: "Facts about Cancer," film & speaker. 11-12 a.m.

## THE COOPERATIVE COMMUNITY CENTER, New College of California, 777 Valencia St., 552-5445

- Cooperative Problem-Solving group meetings. Fri., 7-9:30 p.m.
- May 11: "Marxism and Spirituality," 8 p.m. Potluck dinner, 6-8 p.m.
- May 18: "A Night of Sexual Discourse," 8 p.m. Potluck dinner, 6-8 p.m.
- Special drop-in groups: Men's and Women's Groups, 2nd Fri. of month. Gay Men's Groups, 3rd Fri. of month.

## S. F. SOCIALIST SCHOOL, 29 29th St., 221-3333, ext. 153

- Forums: Fri., 8 p.m. \$2. Childcare provided. May 2: James O'Connor on "Capital and Class Struggle"; May 9: history and contemporary issues of clerical organizing; May 16: Castels on the economic crisis; May 23: rock and roll renaissance; May 30: the death penalty and genocide of black people.
- Workshops: Sat., 1 p.m. \$2.50. Childcare provided. May 3 (7:30 p.m.): Austerity and the democratic prospect: struggles in the public sector, a benefit for "Kapitalistate"; May 10: Women in labor; May 17: WAVPAM/self-defense workshop; May 24: Principles of resistance, organizing against the draft.
- Classes: Starting Mon., May 5: The Fiscal Crisis; San Francisco Labor History; Understanding City Life. Starting May 6: Surviving and Struggling in the 1980s; Art and Masked Media; Conversational Spanish (Tues. & Thurs.). Starting May 7: The U.S. since World War II; Struggle for Reproductive Rights, Reading and Using *Capital*. Starting May 8: Intro. to Socialist Strategy; Third World Women in Literature; Political Photography.

## S. F. WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER, 3789 24th St., 282-6999

- May 1: Workshop: Early Days of Pregnancy. 2 p.m. \$2.
- May 3: Health Effects of Low-Level Radiation. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$7.50.
- May 8: Childbirth Preparation. 2 p.m. \$2.
- May 13: Menopause and Concerns of Women in Middle Years. 4 Tues., 7-9 p.m. \$20.
- May 13: Sibling Rivalry: How To Deal with It. 2 p.m. \$2.
- May 22: Preparation for Breastfeeding. 2 p.m. \$2.
- May 29: La Hora Para Dar Luz. In Spanish. 2 p.m. \$2.
- Thursdays: Pre-natal yoga, 9:45-11 a.m. \$2.

## EUREKA THEATRE COMPANY, 2299 Market St., 863-7133

- May 16-June 14: "Song of a Nomad Flute," Thurs. and Sun., \$5. Fri., Sat., \$6. 8 p.m.
- May 16-June 13: Midnight Series: "Concert of Hells," 8 p.m. performance May 11. \$3.

## S. F. REPERTORY CO., 4147 19th St., 863-4859

- May 3-June 8: "Eccentricities of a Nightingale," by Tennessee Williams. Thurs.-Sun., 8 p.m. Sunday matinee, 2 p.m. \$4 and \$5. PAS plus \$2.50.

## S. F. CHARTER COMMISSION, 350 McAllister St. All public meetings 7:30 p.m.

- May 1: Article XII, XIII, XIV. Room 1194.
- May 6: Article XIII. Room 1194.
- May 8: Article XIII. Room 1158.
- May 20: Review of second draft document. Room 1194.

## ADVERTISE IT!

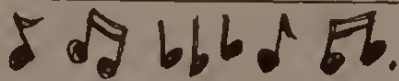
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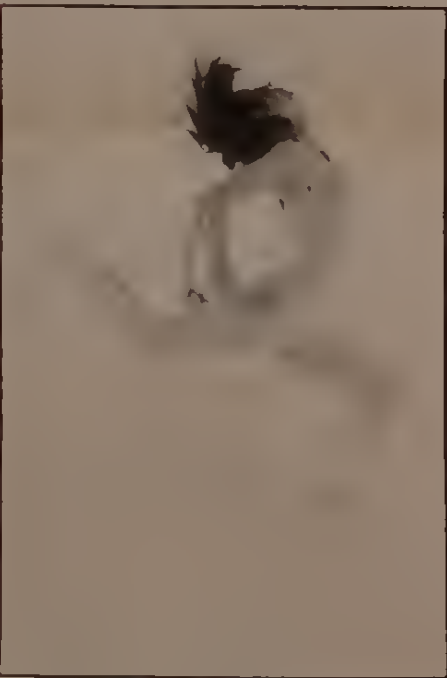


Photo by Gary Simick

Consuelo Faust and her dance company, Leap Forward, present "Dances for Modern Times," a program of varied choreography, theater and mime. The company will perform May 2, 3 and 4 at the S. F. Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., and May 9, 10 and 11 at Margaret Jenkins Studio, 1590 15th St. All performances begin at 8:30 p.m., and admission is \$4 or PAS plus \$1.50.

## LET'S NOT RUSH

Collision course. Panic over probable futures. Trust. Your Work. Trihal music. Stories. The mechanics & history of light. Pandemic. Garden. Hard cash. Organize. You don't want to be condemned to a professional opinion. You & I will get it fixed. You might have blindness in certain places—but so does he—narrow it down. All these people with their Moxy hair. I'm tired of being tested, tested, tested, tested. You've already panicked over the End. But don't get twisted over one thing at a time.

- let's change houses, throw away all extraneous objects
- pull the good irons out of the fire—call in the cows
- you have something to say? Get possessed by it

—from *Cafe of Collisions*, © 1980, Anthony Vaughan